Professor Oliver J. Lodge, D.Sc., LL.D., F.G.S., University College, Liverpool.
Hugh Robert Mill, D.Sc., F.R.S.E., London, Eng.
Professor Henry A. Miers, F.R.S., F.G.S., Magdalen College, Oxford.
Professor John Milne, F.R.S., F.G.S., Isle of Wight.
Robert Munro, M.A., M.D., Edinburgh.
L. C. Miall, F.R.S., F.L.S., F.G.S., Yorkshire College, Leeds.
Professor Raphael Meldola, F.R.S., F.R.A.S., Finsbury Technical College, London.
Professor Meslans, University of Nancy, France.
Dr. Donald Macalister, M.A., M.D., Cambridge.
John L. Myres, M.A., F.S.A., Oxford.
Professor Edward B. Poulton, F.R.S., F.L.S., University of Oxford.
W. H. Preece, C.B., F.R.S., M.Inst.C.E., Wimbledon Common, Surrey.
Professor W. C. Roberts-Austen, C.B., Royal Mint London.
E. G. Ravenstein, F.R.G.S., F.S.S., London.
Wm. Ramsay, Ph.D., F.R.S., F.C.S., University College, London.
Arthur W. Rucker, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S., Professor of Physics in the Royal College of Science, London.
Robert Saundby, M.D., F.R.S.P., Birmingham.
A. C. Seward, M.A., F.G.S., Cambridge, Eng.
Professor C. S. Sherrington, M.D., F.R.S., University College, Liverpool.
Sir William Turner, M.B., LL.D., D.C.L., F.R.S., University of Edinburgh.
Professor W. H. Thompson, M.D., Queen's College, Belfast.
Professor William Cawthorne Unwin, F.R.S., M.Inst.C.E., City and Guilds of London Inst.
Professor F. E. Weiss, B.Sc., F.L.S., Owens College, Manchester.
Professor H. Marshall Ward, D.Sc., F.R.S., F.L.S., Cambridge, University.
Professor W. G. Adams, M.A., F.R.S., F.G.S., King's College, London.
Professor Henrici, Ph.D., F.R.S., City and Guilds of London Institute.
Professor Major P. A. McMahon, R.A., F.R.S., Artillery College, Woolwich.
H. W. Seton-Karr, Esq., Wimbledon, Surrey.
Professor John Perry, D.Sc., F.R.S., London, Eng.
Walter Garstang, M.A., F.Z.S., Marine Biologieal Laboratory, Plymouth.
The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Berkeley, Abingdon.
Professor E. M. Crookshank, King's College, London.
G. Griffith, M.A. (Asst.Gen.Sec.), Harrow.
Professor H. McLeod, F.R.S., F.C.S., Royal Indian Civil Engineering College.
Professor C. Lloyd Morgan, F.G.S., Principal, University College, Bristol.
Professor S. P. Thompson, B.A., F.R.S., D.Sc., F.R.A.S., City and Guilds of London Technical College.
Dr. A. W. Waller, F.R.S., London, Eng.
W. T. Blanford, LL.D., F.R.S., F.G.S., London, Eng.
F. C. Selous, Esq., Wargrove, Bucks.
Sir Malcolm Fraser, General Agent for Western Australia.
Dr. D. Noel Paton, Edinburgh.
John A. Campbell, M.D., F.R.S., Carlisle, Eng.
Sir George S. Robertson, K.C.S.I., London, Eng.
Professor Anderson Stuart, University of Sydney, New South Wales.
Major-General Webber, C.B., R.E., M.Inst. C.E.

The following men of science from the Continent are to be present:

Professor Dr. Anton Dohrn, Zoological Station, Naples.
Professor Yves Delage, University of Paris.
Gustave Gilson, University of Louvain, Belgium.
A. Gobert, Brussels.
Professor Dr. Albert Ladenburg, Breslau.
Professor Meslans, University of Nancy, France.
Professor P. Magnus, University of Berlin.
Dr. Ph. Pauli, Frankfurt-am-Main.
Dr. van Rijckevorsel, Netherlands.
Professor C. Runge, Hannover.
Professor Charles Richet, Paris.
Professor Bohnslav Brauner, University of Prag.
Professor Braun, University of Strassburg.
Professor Fittica, University of Marburg, Germany.
Professor K. Hürthle, University of Breslau.
Professor Penck, University of Vienna.

A. B. MACALLUM.

DE VOLSON WOOD.

PROFESSOR DE VOLSON WOOD, whose death was recently noticed in this JOURNAL, was a man of unusual attainments and was for nearly half a century identified with the promotion of that systematic technological education which has come to play so important a rôle in the civilization of the present day. He was born in 1832, and passed the years of his youth on the farm of his father near Smyrna, N. Y. He early displayed the capacities of a successful student and teacher of mathematics. The neighbors used to say that "the stones on Mr. Wood's farm are covered with figures which his son De Volson had used in the solution of problems;" and he began teaching school at the age of 17. After some preliminary studies in a private academy and at Cazenovia Seminary, he went to Albany State Normal School in 1852 and was graduated from that Institution at the end of the following year. During 1853–4 he was principal of the public school of Nopanoch, N. Y.; and during 1854–5 he served the Albany Normal School as assistant professor of mathematics. He then

went to the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute of Troy, N. Y., where, after two years' work as student and instructor, he was graduated with the degree of civil engineer. Immediately thereafter he became connected with Michigan University, in which he served as assistant professor of civil engineering from 1857 to 1859, as professor of physics and engineering from 1859 to 1860 and as professor of civil engineering from 1860 to 1872. At the end of the latter academic year he resigned his professorship in Michigan University to accept the professorship of mathematics and mechanics in Stevens Institute of Technology, which had been founded the same year. He remained with this institution until his death, holding the professorship of mathematics and mechanics until 1885, and from that year on the professorship of mechanical engineering.

It is an interesting circumstance, which in some measure undoubtedly determined Professor Wood's career, that he went to Michigan University shortly after President Henry Philip Tappan began his remarkable educational work in that institution. Tappan, considering the time in question, was a man of very broad and liberal views concerning educational affairs, and was one of the first to introduce in this country the German ideas of the functions and administration of a university. He was also one of the first of our educators to recognize the value of technological studies, and under his guidance there was established in Michigan University as early as 1855 a four years' course in engineering, to the conduct of which Professor Wood was called two years later. Two other brilliant men of the same institution into whose association Professor Wood was thrown at this time were the distinguished astronomers Francis Brünnow and James C. Watson. A more stimulating intellectual environment than that furnished by these three men could not have been found in this country at that time.

From the time he went to Michigan University, in 1857, to the end of the present academic year Professor Wood was actively engaged in the work of instruction, rarely missing a day from his class-room in forty-one years. During the earlier part, especially, of this long interval, before the differentiation of studies now common had been attained, he gave instruction in a variety of subjects, embracing in fact nearly all those of the mathematico-physical sciences in the engineering curriculum. He was thus brought into intimate contact, and in many cases into prolonged association, with a large body of students who have borne abundant testimony to the exceptional value of his instruction and influence by the range and efficiency of the work they have accomplished. The peculiar merit of his teaching lay in his capacity to make men think laboriously and enthusiastically with their own heads. He was usually able to get students to devote willingly to his subjects three to five times as much labor as they would give to the subjects of other instructors. Being also himself a man of untiring industry, full of suggestions and enquiries, and animated always by a robust and transparent love of the truth, only the dullest students could fail to make creditable progress under his guidance. This genius for industry and this capacity for self-help are the elements of character he succeeded in planting firmly in the long list of engineers who had the good fortune to come under his instruction.

Professor Wood was a frequent contributor to scientific periodicals, particularly those devoted to mathematics and engineering. He was also the author of several text-books widely used in schools of engineering. In this work, as in teaching, his activity was indefatigable to the last, a revised and enlarged edition of his important

work on water motors having been brought out shortly before his death.

In appearance Professor Wood was a striking figure. His large, erect frame and his energetic manner at once commanded attention and respect. Socially he was a most genial and kindly man, full of patience and encouragement, especially for young men. He was of a somewhat retiring and domestic disposition, however, and mingled less with men of the world than might have been expected. Though honored by election to office in the scientific societies to which he belonged, he never sought personal advancement. He was content with his chosen work in the class-room, and the remarkable success he attained in that work amply justifies the singular fidelity with which he devoted his life to it.

R. S. W.

CURRENT NOTES ON PHYSIOGRAPHY.

THE LABRADOR PENINSULA.

Much interesting information about Labrador is to be found in an article by Low in the Annual Report of the Geological Survey of Canada for 1895 (Ottawa, 1897). The fiords of the Atlantic coast are described as valleys of denudation of very ancient origin, eroded when the elevation of the peninsula was greater than now. "Their remote antiquity is established by the deposition in their lower levels of undisturbed sandstones of Cambrian age." A similar explanation is given to the greater river valleys. The 'banks' for some fifteen miles off the coast are shallower than many of the fiords; they are explained as a terminal moraine, somewhat flattened out by floating ice and currents. At least a fourth of the plateau area is occupied by lakes of small depth confined in shallow valleys by barriers of drift. Some of the larger and deeper lakes occupy ancient basins, floored with Cambrian strata. There is a lakeless plain of marine sands and clays carved by deep stream channels, extending inland for a hundred miles eastward from James bay. Much is told about Hamilton river, with its Grand Falls, and Bowdoin* Cañon below them, from which a clear picture of the plateau region may be gained. Erosion by ice is given a small measure; its chief result being to rub down hills and fill neighboring depressions, thus decreasing local relief. "There is no evidence to show that the glacier ever hollowed or scooped out deep depressions, as has been often stated to have occurred elsewhere." The till is frequently arranged in long low ridges, like drumlins, with nearly driftless tracts between them. Eskers are greatly developed, one having a length of nearly a hundred miles. They are ascribed to streams flowing on or below the ice when the glacial sheet had become practically stagnant.

It is difficult to reconcile the statements noted above as to the age of the fiords, the greater valleys and the deeper lakes, with the rates of denudation in resistant rocks elsewhere, unless it be supposed that for most of geological time the Labrador plateau has been covered by an inert ice sheet, protective of very ancient forms rather than productive of new forms; or unless it be supposed that the depressions were long ago made and filled and rather lately re-excavated. In any case, it is hardly possible that "the process of formation of these valleys has continued slowly from [Cambrian time] to the present day by the agency of falling water and of frost." Does the earth's surface exhibit any rocks resistant enough to retain significant slopes after so long an attack of the destructive subaërial forces?

THE CHICAGO AREA.

Leverett describes the Pleistocene features and deposits of the Chicago area

*Bowdoin is unfortunately misspelled *Bodwoin* in the report and on the accompanying map of Labrador.